

THE GRAND ARMY ENCAMPMENT

1861

ST. PAUL

1896



Fully 100,000 people attended the thirtieth national encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic at St. Paul. The encampment this year was one of the most successful ever held. Cheap railroad rates, cool, pleasant weather and a good program of entertainment combined to make the meeting especially attractive to the veterans of the army and navy, and thousands of the gallant old boys took advantage of this favorable chance to spend their annual outing where they could renew their old friendships and talk over the memories of the days of '61.



COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF WALKER.

St. Paul was decked out in her handsomest attire, the decorations being both pleasing and appropriate. From every housetop in the salty city floated the red, white and blue banner that extended a greeting to the veterans, while across the streets and up and down the wide avenues of the residence portion, and from top to dome of the big office buildings, in all manner of designs, could be seen the national colors.

The train bearing Commander-in-Chief Walker and his staff did not arrive until 11 o'clock Monday night. The regular program, however, was gone through with. So enraptured was the General with the scene and the animated colors of the decorations that he for the moment forgot that he was in the midst of a crowd of curious hundreds, and did not heed the words of Capt. McCarthy, commander of the department of Minnesota, who stood at the entrance to the Hotel Ryan to escort him inside. Mrs. John A. Logan, without whom no encampment has seemed complete to the old veterans, was there and witnessed the parades and took part in all the encampment receptions. As they idolized her warrior husband, so also the old soldiers admire her, and her greeting was a warm one.

Formal Program.

The formal program of the encampment was begun Monday evening at 8:30, when a reception was given at Hotel Ryan to the Commander-in-Chief and Mrs. Walker by the citizens' committee and citizens of St. Paul. The hotel was gayly decorated for the occasion, and several thou-



VETERANS ARRIVING IN ST. PAUL.

sand persons shook the hand of the Commander. At the same hour at the State Capitol there was a reception to the Grand Army, the Women's Relief Corps and Sons and Daughters of Veterans. Mrs. Marie Hazenwinkle, president of the Minnesota Women's Relief Corps, was in charge of this reception. It continued until 12 o'clock, and it is estimated that at least 30,000 veterans passed through the capitol during the evening. The scene about the women's headquarters at the Kittson mansion was animated.

The principal spectacle of Tuesday was the parade of the naval veterans and the ex-prisoners of war, escorted by the Third United States Infantry, which was reviewed from the Ryan Hotel by Commander-in-Chief Walker. Tuesday afternoon took place the reunion of Minnesota troops at the State Capitol at 1 o'clock, and at Fort Snelling, where they were entertained by Col. Page, commandant. Tuesday evening the women of the citizens' committee held an open-air reception at Summit Park and Summit avenue. On

the main platform at Summit Park were stationed Gen. Walker and his staff and a few of the distinguished guests.

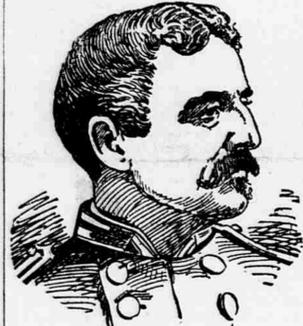
Wednesday at 10 o'clock the grand parade of the Grand Army of the Republic



HEADQUARTERS WOMAN'S G. A. R. COMMITTEE.

started, and this event was looked forward to with great expectation by all. The parade was under command of Commander-in-Chief Walker, and it is estimated that there were 30,000 veterans in line. The official order of march was as follows:

- First Division—Veteran Signal Corps. Departments of Illinois, Wisconsin and Pennsylvania.
 - Second Division—Departments of Ohio and New York.
 - Third Division—Departments of Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, California, Maine, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Vermont, Potomac, Virginia, North Carolina.
 - Fourth Division—Departments of Maryland, Nebraska, Michigan, Iowa and Indiana.
 - Fifth Division—Departments of Colorado, Wyoming, Kansas, Delaware, Missouri and Oregon.
 - Sixth Division—Departments of Kentucky, West Virginia, South Dakota, Washington, Alaska, Arkansas, New Mexico, Utah, Tennessee.
 - Seventh Division—Departments of Louisiana, Mississippi, Florida, Montana, Texas, Idaho, Arizona, Georgia, Alabama, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Indian Territory.
 - Eighth Division—Department of Minnesota.
- The reviewing stand was at Smith Park.



ADMIRAL RICHARD WORSAM MEADE.

When the Commander-in-Chief reached the stand a salute of seventeen guns was fired and the national colors were displayed on the flagstaff. The colors carried by departments and posts saluted the reviewing officer.

The lady visitors to the encampment were handsomely entertained by the fair sex of St. Paul, and elaborate arrangements had been made with this end in view. One of the unique features was a ladies' drive, which took place Thursday morning and was one of the novelties of the reunion. Three hundred carriages were used for the occasion and they made a procession nearly two miles long—the pageant being a very picturesque spectacle.

Story of the Order.

Maj. B. F. Stephenson was the founder of the Grand Army of the Republic and Decatur, Ill., was the place of the first meeting. The idea originated further



JOHN C. LINEHAN.

back than that, however. During Sherman's expedition to Meridian in February, 1864, Stephenson and Chaplain W. J. Rutledge were tentmates. The former then proposed the formation, when all the

boys were mustered out, of such an organization as the Grand Army has grown to be. The two talked it over and planned a good deal during the war and did not forget nor stop their planning when the war had closed. Considerable correspondence passed between Stephenson and Rutledge, and they met in Springfield in March, 1866, to compile a ritual for the proposed order. The first post was organized in Decatur in the following month—April 6, 1866—by Stephenson. The first State convention was held in Springfield July 12 of the same year. As commander-in-chief Dr. Stephenson issued a general order on Oct. 31, calling for the first national convention of the Grand Army of the Republic. The convention met at Indianapolis Nov. 20, and representatives were present from Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Wisconsin, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Iowa, Kentucky, Indiana and the District of Columbia. The convention added the words "sailors" to the Springfield constitution. All soldiers and sailors of the United States army, navy or marine corps who served between April 12, 1861, and April 9, 1865, and were honorably discharged, and members of such State regiments as were called into active ser-



GEN. J. A. GIVEN.

vice were made eligible to membership. It was also provided that no person who had ever borne arms against the United States should be eligible.

Politics was responsible for the first setback received by the G. A. R. In 1868 the disputes between President Johnson and the majority in Congress were the means of greatly hindering the growth of the body. Political disputes also caused such great disorder in the post rooms that many members withdrew. The army leaders realized the injury that was done and took steps to counteract it. One of these steps was the addition to the declaration of principles that "this association does not design to make nominations for office, or to use its influence as a secret organization for partisan purposes." During the next year political discussions were barred from its meetings.

Another drawback was the grade system of membership, which was tried for two years. There were three grades during that time—those of the "recruit," the "soldier" and the "veteran." The recruits had no voice, and could not have until two months' membership, when they could become soldiers, who transacted the business. After six months in the second grade, the soldiers could become veterans,



B. F. STEPHENSON. Founder of the G. A. R.

who alone were eligible to department and national offices.

When politics had been banished and the grade system had been thrown out the army began to grow at a wonderful rate. There are now more than 7,500 posts and about 400,000 men. In 1873 the number was 27,100; in 1878 it was 31,016; in 1883 it was 215,446; in 1888 it was 372,960; in 1889 it was 397,974, and in 1890 it was 409,484. This appears to be the high membership mark. In June, 1893, the number was 397,223, and it has fallen slightly below that since.

The 1,000 or more ex-railroad employees of Cincinnati who have been on the blacklist for participation in the Debs strike and who have been unable since to secure employment have been called to meet next Friday evening to take action to induce the railroad companies to reinstate them.

Count Szeeszen de Temerin, grand marshal of the Austrian court, is dead

DAVID R. FRANCIS,
Who Succeeds Hoke Smith as Secretary of the Interior.

The resignation of Hoke Smith as Secretary of the Interior was followed by



HOKE SMITH'S SUCCESSOR.

the appointment of ex-Gov. David R. Francis, of Missouri, as his successor. Mr. Smith resigned because he differs with the administration on the question of supporting Bryan. The Georgian is a Bryan man. His successor is a Democratic gold man.

Francis is 46 years of age, is a native of Kentucky and a Washington University graduate. He entered mercantile life as a clerk in St. Louis when 20 years old, later went into the commission business on his own account and became successful. In 1884 he was president of the St. Louis Merchants' Exchange and the next year was elected Mayor of St. Louis. In 1888 he was elected Governor of Missouri and served one term—four years. When President Cleveland was making up his Cabinet four years ago Francis was slated for Secretary of the Interior, but had to give way to Smith.

CONCERNING THE CROPS.

Government Reports of Their Condition in Many States.

The reports as to the condition of the crops throughout the country and the general effect of the weather on the growth, cultivation and harvest of same as made by the directors of the several climate and crop sections, show that the past week has been very favorable for farm work, especially threshing, which has been greatly retarded by the rains of previous weeks. Plowing for fall seeding has progressed favorably, although portions of the middle Atlantic States, Kansas and Oklahoma need general rains to put the soil in condition. Some winter wheat has been sown in Ohio, Michigan and Missouri, and also in New England and the middle Atlantic States, but in the last named section but little seeding has yet been done, owing to dry conditions of soil. Cotton picking has made rapid progress, and all reports indicate that the crop of this year will be secured at an unusually early date. In Arkansas the whole crop will be gathered by Oct. 15, and in Texas the greater part will be picked by that date, while in the eastern portion of the cotton belt picking will be completed much earlier, in Georgia by Sept. 15, and some have already completed picking in Mississippi. As compared with the previous week the general condition of cotton remains unchanged, the outlook for top crop being very poor. Much corn has been cut and the late crop is maturing rapidly, although somewhat retarded by cool weather in Ohio, Iowa and Missouri. While the bulk of the crop will soon be safe from frost its quality would be better if no frost occurred within three or four weeks. In Tennessee, Indiana and Pennsylvania the bulk of the tobacco has been housed and cutting is progressing rapidly in Ohio, Kentucky, Virginia, Maryland and New York. Drought conditions in Southern New Jersey, Western Tennessee and in portions of Maryland, North Carolina, Alabama and Louisiana still continue. Light frosts occurred in New England, New York, generally in the upper lake region and in North Dakota and Nebraska, causing but little damage.

VOICE OF VERMONT.

Republicans Elect Their Entire State Ticket by Great Plurality.

Vermont has declared for Josiah Grout, Republican, for Governor and for the Republican State ticket entire by a majority that equaled the prediction of the most confident Republican manager. The total vote cast was by far the largest in the history of the State. The Senate will be almost, if not unanimously, Republican. There were some close fights for the election of county officers, but, generally speaking, the Republicans swept everything. No particular part or section of the State can be selected from which to draw a lesson, as the figures show the same everywhere, tremendous Republican gains even over the figures of two years ago, which were thought to be phenomenal.

The Charles H. Pearson Fruit Packing Company and the Aughtinbaugh Canning Company each made a deal of trust for the benefit of creditors at Baltimore. Both concerns were controlled by the same capital. Assets, \$100,000, which will cover all liabilities.

THE BATTLE-FIELDS.

OLD SOLDIERS TALK OVER ARMY EXPERIENCES.

The Blue and the Gray Review Incidents of the Late War, and in a Graphic and Interesting Manner Tell of Camp, March and Battle—Thrilling Incidents.

Wanderings of "The Rebel."
The story of The Rebel in its wanderings over the South is one of interest. Survivors of the Army of Tennessee especially remembered the little sheet that found its way to the camps daily and inspired the boys with renewed energy and hope for the cause they deemed the right. Like the loved and inspiring "Dixie," The Rebel fired the Southern heart by its very name.

The Rebel first saw the light Aug. 1, 1862, in Chattanooga. It was a four-column folio, published by Franc M. Paul. Thousands of copies were sent to Bragg's army at Tullahoma, Tenn., and often the supply was inadequate to the demand, owing to the fact that the publisher's press, a drum cylinder, could not print them fast enough. Often the press was kept going all day to supply the demand from the army sutlers.

So popular did the Rebel become in a few weeks that the publisher in October, 1862, engaged the young but versatile and rising journalist, Henry Watterson, to edit the paper. Mr. Paul brought to the assistance of Mr. Watterson Mr. Albert Roberts, a vigorous writer and trained journalist, of Nashville. He was a humorous writer, using the nom de plume of "John Happly."

Watterson and Roberts kept the Rebel at white heat, and the paper grew in importance and size, after the publication began.

Well does the writer, who gives this account in the Boston Herald, remember the eagerness of the army for the highly prized papers. The boys in camp could not rest until its arrival every morning on the train from Chattanooga.

When General Bragg began his retrograde movement in the spring of '63 to Chattanooga, the Rebel was supplied to the army with much difficulty. When the army arrived there the paper was in still greater demand.

In the summer of that year, however, it became evident that the Federals were coming to Chattanooga for the purpose of capturing that important point. And then it was the Rebel began its wanderings over the South. The paper was removed to Marietta, Ga., Messrs. Watterson and Roberts staying in Chattanooga for a few days after the plant had been shipped. The shelling of Chattanooga in that month soon convinced the editors that they, too, must go if they would avoid capture by the Federal army, and they left to join the paper.

Editor-in-Chief Watterson had been sharply criticizing General Bragg while the paper was in Chattanooga. One evening he visited a gentleman's house in that town, and it happened that General Bragg was also a visitor. The two gentlemen had never met, and while waiting for the host to appear, after being ushered into the parlor by a servant, Watterson and Bragg began a casual conversation, which soon turned upon the war. Although he knew he was in the presence of an officer of high rank, Watterson little suspected it was the commander-in-chief of the army. He indulged in some criticisms of General Bragg as he had been doing in the Rebel. The general listened for a while in almost speechless wonder, but controlled himself till his fiery critic had abused him for some minutes, when he arose, and, addressing Mr. Watterson, asked: "Do you know who I am, sir?"

The editor replied that he had not that honor.

"My name is Bragg, sir," said the now fully aroused commander.

Of course, Watterson was somewhat taken aback, but in his most courtly and chivalrous manner assured General Bragg that he had not meant to be offensive, but that his criticisms were made in good faith and from motives of sincere desire to promote the welfare of the Confederacy. But apologies were not asked nor given.

General Bragg, however, never forgot nor forgave his critic. After the battle of Chickamauga, while the paper was at Marietta, Watterson continued his attacks on General Bragg who informed the publisher of the Rebel that unless the late editor were discharged the paper could not come into his lines. Mr. Watterson then realized that he must seek other friends, for he was not the man to retract a word nor to be dictated to. As editor-in-chief he would write his sentiment, so he became one of the staff of Lieutenant General Leonidas Polk. After serving a short time in that capacity Watterson resigned and became editor of one of the papers published in Atlanta.

After an uneventful existence in Griffin for a while, the approach of the Federal army to Atlanta in July of that year warned the publisher that he must move on if he would keep the Rebel afloat and save his scalp, so it was taken to Selma, Ala., that fall.

Here it was that the eventful paper came to an untimely end with the Confederacy it had so long and faithfully upheld. It was in the latter part of April, 1865, that Selma was taken by General Wilson. The Federals knew of the existence of the Rebel, and one of the first things they did to appease their wrath was to fire its office, which was in a building beside the river and built partly over it. The Yankees printed a small sheet, in which they announced their victory over the "rebs," and probably the general orders from headquarters, announcing the surrender of the armies of the Southern Confederacy. They then threw the ma-

terials in the river and burned all the files they could find.

Stole a Steamer.

There is now before Congress a bill appropriating \$20,000 to be paid to Robert Smalls, a negro politician of Charleston, S. C. The money is to be paid for the performance of one of the most daring feats of the Civil War.

May 12, 1862, the Confederate steamship Planter, the special dispatch boat of Gen. Ripley, the Confederate commander at Charleston, was lying at the wharf in Charleston. The officers had all gone ashore, leaving on board a crew of eight men, all negroes. Among them was Robert Smalls, who was virtually the pilot of the boat. For some time previous he had been watching for an opportunity to carry into execution a plan he had conceived to take the Planter to the Federal fleet. This, he saw, was about as good a chance as he would ever have to do so. Consulting with the balance of the crew Smalls found that they were willing to co-operate with him, although two of them afterward concluded to remain behind. The design was hazardous in the extreme. The boat would have to pass beneath the guns of the forts in the harbor. Failure and detection would have been certain death. Fearful was the venture, but it was made. Wood was taken aboard, steam was put on, and with her valuable cargo of guns and ammunition, intended for Fort Ripley, a new fortification just constructed in the harbor, about 2 o'clock in the morning the Planter silently moved off from her dock, steamed up to North Atlantic wharf, where Smalls' wife and children, together with four other women and one other child, and also three men, were waiting to embark. All these were taken on board, and then, at 3:25 a. m., May 13, the Planter started on her perilous adventure, carrying nine men, five women and three children. Passing Fort Johnson, the Planter's whistle blew the usual salute and she proceeded down the bay. Approaching Fort Sumter, Smalls stood in the pilot house leaning out of the window, with his arms folded across his breast, after the manner of the commander of the boat, and his head covered with the huge straw hat which the commander wore on such occasions.

The signal required to be given by all steamers passing out was blown as coolly as if Gen. Ripley was on board, going out on a tour of inspection. Sumter answered by signal, "All right," and the Planter headed toward Morris Island, then occupied by Hatch's artillery, and passed beyond the range of Sumter's guns before anybody suspected anything was wrong. When at last Planter was obviously going toward the Federal fleet off the bar, Sumter signaled toward Morris Island to stop her. But it was too late. As the Planter approached the Federal fleet a white flag was displayed, but this was not at first discovered, and the Federal steamers, supposing the Confederate rams were coming to attack them, stood out to deep water. But the ship Onward, Capt. Nichols, which was not a steamer, remained, opened her ports, and was about to fire into the Planter, when she noticed the flag of truce. As soon as the vessels came within hailing distance of each other, the Planter's errand was explained. Capt. Nichols then boarded her, and Smalls delivered the Planter to him.

Dutchman and Prisoner.

At the breaking out of the war I enlisted with a Dutch neighbor and we were soon put on picket duty together. The officer of the guard finding the Dutchman utterly ignorant of the ordinary duties of a picket, concluded that he would at least know enough to watch a prisoner. So he placed the Dutchman in charge of a prisoner with instructions to shoot him if he attempted to escape. The name of this Dutchman was Hans, and he was inclined to be of an obliging disposition, although not over bright and having a little too much confidence in human nature. The prisoner was tied with his hands behind him to a tree, and soon was on friendly terms with the Dutchman. He managed in some way to loosen his hands and then asked the Dutchman to do him a favor by taking a handkerchief out of his pocket and wiping his nose. Hans placed his gun against the tree, and proceeded to do as requested, but suddenly the prisoner struck him on the side of the head and knocked him down, seized the gun, and skipped. The Dutchman got up, rubbed his eyes, and said, "Jimmy Christmas, I dot dot was an elephant kick."

Then, looking around, he said, "Mine prisoner was gone, my goon was gone, and I guess I petter be back by de camp out."

And thus he reported that his prisoner had escaped.

Hog Eat Dog.

Ed Trick, of Burlington, Vt., who served in Company G, Second Vermont, is the man who played the practical joke on the officers of a New Jersey regiment. The Vermont regiment captured some sheep one night, killed, dressed, and hung them up. During the night the servant of the New Jersey officer stole the sheep, and in getting and killing those sheep, and, of course, felt ugly. In the Vermont regiment was a large Newfoundland dog. One dark night Trick killed and dressed the dog, and hung it where the sheep had hung. In the morning the dog was gone, and it was soon found that the Jerseyites had stolen the Newfoundland dog carcass, and enjoyed another feast, pronouncing it the finest mutton they had ever eaten. It did not take long for the news to spread throughout the corps, and whenever that regiment made its appearance on the march or in a fight, or was passing by any other regiment, their fellow-soldiers commenced barking. Trick says it was a case of hog eat dog. He has never forgiven those Jerseyites, and says he never will.

